



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission
Sunnyside in Sevier Park
3000 Granny White Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
Telephone: (615) 862-7970
Fax: (615) 862-7974

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1530 Lock Road, Lock One

June 17, 2015

Application: Historic Landmark Overlay for Lock One

Map and Parcel Numbers: 07109000200

Council Districts: 02

Applicant: Metro Parks and Recreation Department

Project Lead: Robin Zeigler, robin.zeigler@nashville.gov, 615-862-7970

Description of Project: Mayor Karl Dean is requesting that Lock One be adopted as a Historic Landmark Overlay.

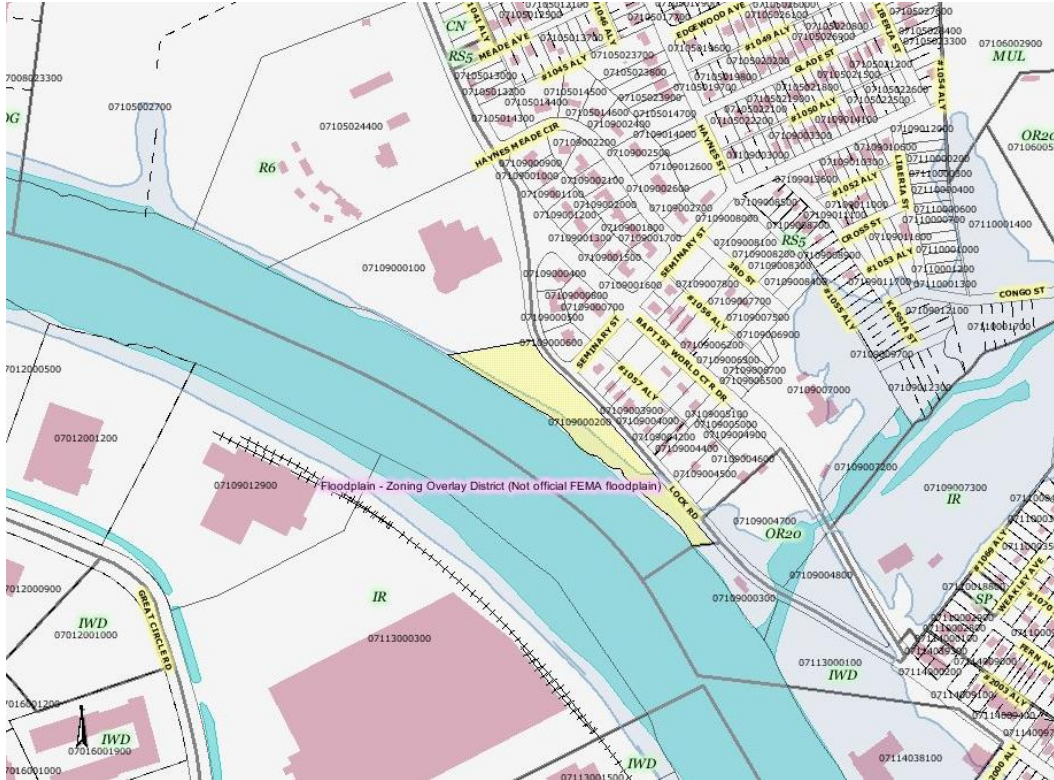
Recommendation Summary: Staff suggests the Commission recommend to City Council that the Lock One be adopted as Historic Landmark Overlay. The site meets the standards of the Ordinance for a Historic Preservation Landmark Overlay and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Attachments

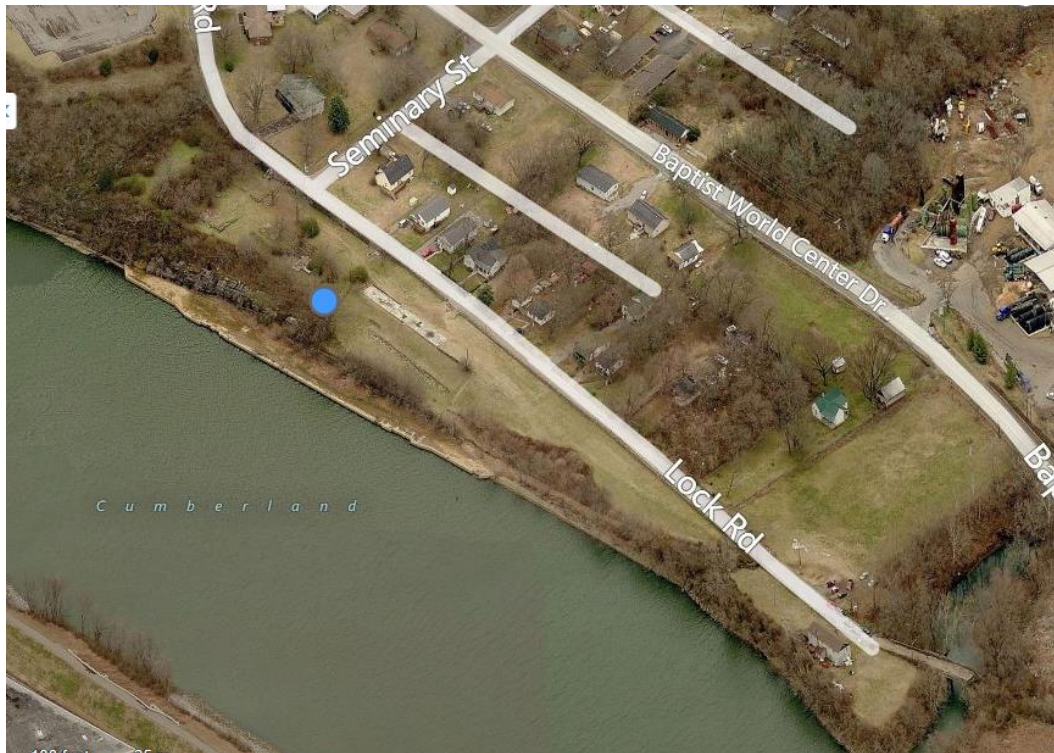
A: Photographs

B: Comments

Vicinity Map



Aerial Map



Background:

Lock 1 is one of the only remnants of the failed canalization of the Cumberland River at the turn of the century. The Cumberland was vital trade route that helped sustain Nashville's early economy. However, the popularity of large steam ships in the late 19th century threatened that prosperity, as the Upper Cumberland is too shallow and rocky for such ships to travel through safely. As a solution the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed a series of twenty-one locks and dams from Nashville to Smith's Shoals, Kentucky to improve travel through the area. The poorly funded project took from 1888 to 1924 to complete and did little to improve river navigation.

Many of the locks and dams were submerged or demolished when more efficient dams were erected in the 1930s and 1940s. Today, only portions of Lock 1 can still be seen along the river near the American Baptist Campus and Lock 2 at Pennington Bend near Opryland. Lock 1 was the first lock of the project completed, built in 1898. Construction was put on hold briefly and the rock-filled timber crib dam was finished in 1904.

In recent years, both Locks One and Two were leased to the Metro Parks Department by the Corps of Engineers. The original stone wall, steps, and building foundation are visible at the site. A section of the land wall exists as well, but can only be seen from across the river. The rest of the lock and the dam were demolished in 1958 due to the fact that they were hazardous for river navigation.

Applicable Ordinance:

Article III. Historic Overlay Districts

17.36.120 Historic Districts Defined. B. Historic Landmark. An historic landmark is defined as a building, structure, site or object, its appurtenances and the property it is located on, of high historical, cultural, architectural or archaeological importance; whose demolition or destruction would constitute an irreplaceable loss to the quality and character of Nashville and Davidson County; and that meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. The historic landmark is associated with an event that has made a significant contribution to local, state or national history;
2. It is associated with the lives of persons significant in local, state or national history;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic value;
4. It has yielded or may be likely to yielded archaeological information important in history or prehistory; or
5. It is listed or is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Analysis and Findings:

Lock One meets standards 1 and 5 because of its association with the Cumberland River and the River's impact on the development and growth of Nashville and because the property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Staff suggests the Commission recommend to City Council a Historic Landmark Overlay for Lock One.

ATTACHMENT A: PHOTOGRAPHS







ATTACHMENT B: COMMENTS

From: Nash, Larry D LRN [<mailto:Larry.D.Nash@usace.army.mil>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 9:50 AM
To: Walker, Tim (Historical Commission)
Cc: McCormack, Valerie J LRN; Bell, Frederick B LRN
Subject: Lock 1 and 2 (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Mr. Walker:

I am Larry Nash, Cheatham Lake Resource Manager for the Corps and responsible for Lock 1 and 2. Valerie passed on the Commission's proposed historical overlay for the leased areas. I support your proposal as explained to me by Valerie. It would help to preserve and protect the two areas. If there is anything I can do to support your proposal please let me know.

LARRY NASH
Resource Manager
Cheatham Lake
615-792-5697